



State of Connecticut
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

TESTIMONY OF THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IN SUPPORT OF:

**H.B. No. 6548 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE JURY SELECTION TASK FORCE.**

JOINT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
March 15, 2021

The Division of Criminal Justice supports H.B. 6548, which seeks to implement the recommendations of the Jury Selection Task Force.

The Division, through the Chief State's Attorney, was honored to participate in the work of the Task Force and supports its recommendations. The benefit of having a jury that accurately represents the diversity of any particular district would more likely ensure that the defendant has confidence in a fair trial. Moreover, studies have shown that more diverse juries deliberate longer, discuss more trial evidence, and make fewer factually inaccurate statements when discussing the evidence than more homogenous juries. The Division also supports the portions of this bill which seek to alleviate the burdens jurors face when serving on a jury.

In conclusion, the Division of Criminal Justice supports H.B. 6548 as another step in bettering our criminal justice system and respectfully recommends the Committee's JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT. We thank the Committee for affording this opportunity to provide input on this matter and would be happy to provide any additional information the Committee might require or to answer any questions that you might have.